



State of Connecticut
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STATE CAPITOL

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ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN LEADER

MEMBER
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APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Testimony in opposition to HB 7027

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH
2019, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR***

***Appropriations Committee and Appropriations Elementary & Secondary Education Subcommittee
February 21, 2017***

Thank you to Appropriations Co-Chairs Walker, Formica and Osten; Ranking Member Ziobron; Subcommittee Chairs Slossberg, Rosario and Somers; and Ranking Member Kokoruda for this opportunity to address the committee today in reference to the Governor's Budget Bill: **HB 7027**.

As a fellow member of the Appropriations Committee, I look forward to our ongoing search for solutions to this budget proposal, which holds such great potential to do harm to the educational foundation of most of Connecticut's public school districts. Additionally, as a Representative of Newtown, I have significant concerns about this budget's potential negative impacts on the children and families of my home town, where community mental health services and funding for school-based health services are also on the chopping block.

There is much to discuss but, at this time I would like to introduce you all to Newtown's Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Joseph Erardi, a man for whom I have the utmost respect. Dr. Erardi speaks from years of experience and was recently recognized as Connecticut's School Superintendent of the Year in 2016.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for your attention as it is my honor and pleasure to present Dr. Joseph Erardi.

Respectfully,

Representative Mitch Bolinsky